

**MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED. ABTEL WILL RECEIVE THE
MINUTES AT ITS MARCH 17, 2003, MEETING FOR APPROVAL.**

**ADVISORY BOARD ON TEACHER EDUCATION
AND LICENSURE (ABTEL) MEETING**

MINUTES

January 27, 2003

Meeting Date and Location: January 27, 2003
Sheraton Richmond West Hotel
Richmond, Virginia

ABTEL Members Present:

Sharon Condrey	Margaret Shibley Gray	Dale Sander
Nancy Davenport	Mark Ingerson	Donna Smith
Judy Davis-Dorsey	Linda Kelly	Rita Thompson
Ron Diss	Cheryl Lightfoot	Susan Walton
Ken Fleming	Jane Massey-Wilson	
Mark Glaser	Nancy Miller	

ABTEL Members Absent: Suzanne Meyer
J. David Smith
Rena` White

Board of Education Liaison: Susan T. Noble (absent)

Ex-Officio Member: Toni Cleveland
Jeanita Richardson

Department of Education Staff: Thomas A. Elliott
JoAnne Y. Carver
Patty S. Pitts

Guests: Betty Lambdin, Virginia Education Association
Michelle Parker, Department of Education
Judi Swingen, Chesterfield County Schools

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FULL BOARD MEETING

Dr. Jane Massey-Wilson, chair of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure, called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. and welcomed members and guests.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Donna Smith made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.
Mark Ingerson seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Susan Walton made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2002, advisory board meeting. Nancy Davenport seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

AGENDA ITEMS

Agenda Item A: Final Approval of Recommendations to the Board of Education on Pre-service and In-service Requirements for Elementary and Special Education Teachers and Reading Specialists

Dr. Massey-Wilson provided introductory remarks regarding the recommendations to the Board of Education on pre-service and in-service requirements for elementary and special education teachers and reading specialists. During the October 21, 2002, Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure meeting, Mark Christie, President of the Board of Education, had charged the advisory board with the responsibility of reviewing the pre- and in-service requirements for teachers of elementary education and reading specialists and making recommendations to the Board of Education to ensure that teachers have the skills and abilities to effectively teach reading.

The advisory board approved a motion at its November 18, 2002, meeting to: a) support a test in reading for elementary, special, and reading specialist educators in at least the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension; and b) make suggestions to be used by the executive committee in developing a series of recommendations to enhance reading instruction and professional development opportunities for in-service educators.

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Dr. Massey-Wilson disseminated a draft recommendation to the Board of Education based on the executive committee's discussions. After some discussion, **Ron Diss made a motion to adopt the following recommendation:**

The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure supports the requirement of a reliable, valid, and legally defensible assessment for licensure for elementary (prek-3 and prek-6) teachers, special educators, and reading specialists addressing at least the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension, grouping, maximizing student learning and effective reading instruction.

Sharon Condrey seconded the motion. Ron Diss accepted friendly amendments to his motion, adding "spelling and writing" after "comprehension" and changing "writing" to "written language." The motion was repeated with the amendments as follows:

The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure supports the requirement of a reliable, valid, and legally defensible assessment for licensure for elementary (prek-3 and prek-6) teachers, special educators, and reading specialists addressing at least the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension, spelling and written language, grouping, maximizing student learning and effective reading intervention.

Dale Sander called for the question. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Dr. Toni Cleveland inquired about the status of using the SAT as an alternative to the Praxis I requirement. Dr. Thomas Elliott responded that Dr. Jo Lynne DeMary, Superintendent of Public Instruction, sent a letter to the Educational Testing Service to determine comparable scores on the SAT with Virginia's Praxis I scores.

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION PANEL

Dr. Jane Massey-Wilson provided the advisory board members with a copy of her notes for her presentation at the November 6, 2002, State Board of Education Committee on No Child Left Behind. Her presentation focused on strengthening reading preparation of teachers.

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**Agenda Item B: Report on the Mid-Atlantic Regional Teacher's Project--
Meritorious New Teacher Candidate Designations**

Dr. Thomas Elliott made a presentation on the Mid-Atlantic Regional Teacher's Project (MARTP)—Meritorious New Teacher Candidate Designations. MARTP established the Meritorious New Teacher Candidate Committee to determine the viability of establishing criteria for a Meritorious New Teacher designation.

The committee is defining a process by which state certification and licensure policies can be amended to include the Meritorious New Teacher designation within each state and to accept full reciprocity within the region. Currently, the District of Columbia and the states of Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia are participating in this project. The purpose of this new designation is to recognize and reward those new entrants to K-12 teaching who demonstrate excellence in preparedness to teach and to serve as an incentive to both future teachers and teacher preparation programs to strive for excellence.

Four subcommittees are working in the following areas: criteria; incentives; implications; and implementation. Dr. Elliott serves on the criteria subcommittee. The criteria for the designation will include verbal skills (score in the upper quartile on one of the following tests: SAT, GRE, ACT, Miller Analogies Test) and content knowledge (scores in the upper quartile on Praxis II specialty test and an academic major or minor in the subject area to be taught, with a minimum of 3.5 GPA in those courses).

Advisory board members discussed the Meritorious New Teacher Candidate Designations. They inquired about the criteria for special education students to achieve this designation, whether this process would require more recordkeeping; the disadvantages to certain populations; and when other states, such as West Virginia, Tennessee, and North Carolina would participate. Dr. Elliott will share the discussion at the next meeting, and he did indicate that additional states may be interested in participating after the program is established.

**Agenda Item C: Report on Virginia's Comprehensive Data System—A focus on
the Teacher Education and Licensure Component**

Virginia received a \$13.5 million Teacher Quality Enhancement Grant under the Title II Higher Education Act over a three-year period. One initiative of the grant is to develop a comprehensive data collection system that provides information needed to drive the commonwealth's teacher quality agenda. A valid and reliable data collection system is the linchpin of any effort to improve the quality of teachers and teaching in Virginia.

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Patty Pitts presented a report on a major component of the Comprehensive Data System -- the development and implementation of a teacher education and licensure system. The current system developed approximately a decade ago does not meet Virginia's current data and technological needs.

A Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued, and System Automation, Inc., was awarded a contract for the Teacher Education and Licensure component. The new Teacher Education and Licensure System will be designed to process licenses, maintain and report data, and include integrated document imaging. The anticipated implementation date of this first phase of the project is July 1, 2003. A second phase, a Web-enabled process, is scheduled for implementation by September 30, 2003.

Agenda Item D: Report on Highlights of the New Teacher Education and Licensure Regulations:

- *Final Regulations Governing Determination of Critical Teacher Shortage Areas (Effective February 26, 2003)**
- *Regulations Governing the Employment of Professional Personnel (Effective Date: March 10, 2003)**

Dr. JoAnne Carver provided a status report on the Regulations Governing Determination of Critical Teacher Shortage Areas. The regulations will be published in the *Virginia Register* on January 27, 2003, and will become effective 30 days thereafter (February 26, 2003). A copy of the regulations was provided to advisory board members. The regulations are accessible on the Department of Education Web site, www.pen.k12.va.us (Teacher Education and Licensure Web page).

Patty Pitts provided a status report on the Regulations Governing the Employment of Professional Personnel (Effective Date March 10, 2003). These final regulations will be published in the *Virginia Register* on February 10, 2003, and are scheduled to become effective 30 days thereafter on March 10, 2003. A copy of the regulations was provided to advisory board members. The regulations are accessible on the Department of Education Web site, www.pen.k12.va.us (Teacher Education and Licensure Web pages).

Agenda Item E: Report on Teacher Education Related 2003 General Assembly Initiatives

Michelle Parker, Policy Analyst, Virginia Department of Education, provided a report on the status of Teacher Education and Licensure Related 2003 General Assembly Initiatives. The Department of Education Web site, www.pen.k12.va.us has a tracking

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system providing the status of the General Assembly legislation. The URL address for the exact site is as follows:

<http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/PolicyPub/legis98/>

Ms. Parker indicated that the bill crossover date is February 5, and the General Assembly will close on February 22, 2003. The reconvened session is April 2, 2003. Ms. Parker indicated that the Web site would be updated periodically, and the status of bills and resolutions can be accessed on the Web site.

Agenda Item F: Report on Highlights of the 2000-2001 Annual Report on Teacher Preparation Programs in Virginia.

Dr. JoAnne Carver presented the Report on Highlights of the 2000-01 Annual Report on Teacher Preparation Programs in Virginia. Beginning in 2002, the Department of Education is required to provide an annual report to the Board of Education and the public on the status of approved teacher preparation programs in Virginia. The report is consolidated from the following sources:

- A) The Regulations Governing Approved Programs for Virginia Institutions of Higher Education;
- B) Institutional reports to the state for the 1998 Title II, Higher Education Act (HEA); and additional information reported by the 15 institutions accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

Title II also requires colleges and universities with teacher preparation programs to share this information, including teacher assessment pass rates, with the public annually.

The annual report provides information from the previous academic year and gives a comprehensive status of teacher preparation programs in Virginia. The report also is aligned with the due dates of other institutional reports required by Board of Education regulations or the Title II Higher Education Act. The Board of Education received the 2000-20001 Annual Report on Teacher Preparation Programs in Virginia at its November 20, 2002, meeting. The annual report is posted on the Virginia Department of Education Web site, www.pen.k12.va.us.

Agenda Item F: Discussion of Teacher Education Related Issues Among Board Members

Mark Glaser inquired about advisory board members accruing 180 points toward licensure renewal every five years for their participation on the board. Dr. Elliott

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responded that there will be revisions in the renewal requirements, and this change could be incorporated.

Dr. Elliott encouraged advisory board members to send suggested revisions to the Licensure Regulations for School Personnel directly to him via e-mail. A Notice of Intended Regulations Action was approved by the Board of Education to change the regulations to address No Child Left Behind requirements as well as revisions in reading, middle education, etc. Dr. Elliott shared that the Fairfax County School Superintendent recommended revisions in the regulations for special education, school psychologists, and middle school. Dr. Jane Massey-Wilson asked that the advisory board include on its next agenda a discussion on the requirements for middle school education.

LIAISON REPORTS

The Virginia Community College System (VACCS)

Dr. Toni Cleveland, Vice Chancellor of Academic Services and Research, presented the report from the Virginia Community College System. The articulation committee with public higher education institutions (9 public institutions) continues to meet. Five institutions have agreed to sign guaranteed admissions agreements. Agreements are included for elementary education (prek-3, prek-6), middle education, and selected special education areas. By the next advisory board meeting date, copies of the agreements should be available.

The Virginia Community College System was invited to participate in a national conference with 30 other institutions and states to look at changing licensure across the country. The Ford Foundation sponsored Virginia as this was viewed as "innovative programming."

The Virginia Community College System is partnering with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and the Department of Education with the implementation of the three-year \$13.5 Teacher Quality Enhancement Grant.

The Virginia Community College System is reviewing the Arizona model that allows community colleges to prepare career switchers as teachers using the Internet.

State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

Dr. Jeanita Richardson, Senior Associate, State Council of Higher Education (SCHEV), reported that SCHEV personnel was involved with working with the General Assembly

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session. In addition, a Request for Proposal associated with No Child Left Behind funding was submitted to two- and four-year institutions. The proposals, due February 14, will then be evaluated and awarded.

Virginia Department of Education

Dr. Thomas A. Elliott, assistant superintendent for Teacher Education and Licensure, reported that the work supported by the Virginia Teacher Quality Enhancement Grant is continuing under the leadership of a newly appointed director, Dr. Richard W. Layman. Dr. Elliott explained that the “CEO” of the grant is Dr. Jo Lynne DeMary, Superintendent of Public Instruction. An Advisory Council on Teacher Quality has been established to provide advice regarding the grant. A Teacher Quality Enhancement Steering Committee was established for the day-to-day operation of the grant. Dr. Elliott reported that Dale Sander, Jane Massey-Wilson, and Thomas Elliott attended the National Governor’s Institute, focusing on the work of the grant to enhance teacher quality in Virginia.

Dr. Elliott stated that the grant will support five staff members. Dr. Richard Layman is the director, and Dr. Linda Wallinger has been employed as the associate director. An administrative assistant and two additional specialists will be employed.

A Virginia Teacher Quality Forum will be held March 20-21 at the Richmond Sheraton West Hotel to develop a proposed multi-tiered licensure system. School divisions have been asked to submit nominations of teachers to participate in the forum. Advisory board members will be invited to participate in the forum. A grant was awarded to Dr. Terry Dozier, Center for Teacher Leadership at Virginia Commonwealth University, to design the program for the two-day forum. Milken Educators and Virginia Teachers of the Year will be honored during banquets at the forum.

NEXT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

The next meeting of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure will be held on March 17, 2003, at George Mason University. The meeting will be hosted by the dean of the Graduate School of Education.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure was adjourned.

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